

Complete Listing of All Claims

1-4 (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) An isolated polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide of claim 15 or a complement thereof.
6. (Withdrawn) An antibody that specifically binds to a CTGF fragment of Claim 1.
7. (Withdrawn) An antisense molecule that binds to a nucleic acid sequence encoding a CTGF fragment of Claim 1.
8. (Withdrawn) A method for treating a CTGF-associated disease or disorder comprising administering to a subject having or at risk of having a CTGF-associated disease or disorder, an antibody of Claim 6.
9. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 8, wherein the disease or disorder is fibroproliferative disease/disorder.
10. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 8, wherein the disease or disorder is selected from the group consisting of kidney fibrosis, scleroderma, pulmonary fibrosis, liver fibrosis, arthritis, hypertrophic scarring, atherosclerosis, diabetic nephropathy and retinopathy, hypertension, kidney disorders, angiogenesis-related disorders, skin fibrotic disorders, and cardiovascular disorders.
11. (Withdrawn) A method for treating a CTGF-associated disease or disorder comprising administering to a subject having or at risk of having a CTGF-associated disease or disorder, an antisense molecule of Claim 7.

12. (Withdrawn) A method of identifying an agent or compound that modulates mitogenic activity of a CTGF fragment comprising:

contacting a cell with a test agent and with a mitogenic CTGF fragment under conditions that allow the components to interact; and

comparing the ability of the cell to proliferate in the presence of the agent to the ability of a cell to proliferate in the absence of the agent, wherein a difference in the proliferative ability of the cells is indicative of an agent or compound that modulates mitogenic activity of a CTGF fragment.

13. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12, wherein the modulation is inhibition of activity.

14. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12, wherein the modulation is stimulation of activity.

15. (Currently Amended) An isolated polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

(a) an amino acid sequence consisting essentially of SEQ ID NO:4;
(b) an amino acid sequence consisting essentially of residue 4 through 74 of SEQ ID NO:4;
(c) a fragment of (b) that is at least 15 amino acids long;
~~(d) an amino acid sequence consisting essentially of residue 4 through 74 of SEQ ID NO:4;~~ and

~~(e)(d)~~ an amino acid sequence consisting essentially of 4 through 172 of SEQ ID NO:4; wherein the polypeptide has mitogenic activity and does not consist of SEQ ID NO:2.

16. (Previously Presented) An expression vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 5.

17. (Previously Presented) A host cell comprising the polynucleotide of claim 5.

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18. (Previously Presented) A method of producing a polypeptide having mitogenic activity, the method comprising:
 - (a) culturing a host cell of claim 17 under conditions suitable for formation of the polypeptide; and
 - (b) recovering the polypeptide encoded by said polynucleotide.
19. (Previously Presented) An isolated polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence from residue 75 through 172 of SEQ ID NO: 4.
20. (New) An isolated polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide of claim 19 or a complement thereof.
21. (New) An expression vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 20.
22. (New) A host cell comprising the polynucleotide of claim 20.